

directs the Commission to undertake a review of the implementation of the provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act) relating to universal service, and to submit a report to Congress no later than April 10, 1998.

At the En Banc, the Commission will hear from panels of experts addressing issues regarding the percentage of universal service support provided by Federal mechanisms and the revenue base from which such support is derived.

The En Banc is open to the public, and seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. A transcript of the En Banc will be available 10 days after the event on the FCC's Internet site. The URL address for the FCC's Internet Home Page is <<http://www.fcc.gov>>.

The En Banc will also be carried live on the Internet. Internet users may listen to the real-time audio feed of the En Banc by accessing the FCC Internet Audio Broadcast Home Page. Step-by-step instructions on how to listen to the audio broadcast, as well as information regarding the equipment and software needed, are available on the FCC Internet Audio Broadcast Home Page. The URL address for this home page is <http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/>.

News Media Contact: Rochelle Cohen (202) 418-0253.

Report Working Group Contact: Jonathan Radin (202) 418-7240.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6712-01-U

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, March 10, 1998 at 10 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g.

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g, § 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C.

Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration.

Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters, affecting a particular employee.

DATE & TIME: Thursday, March 12, 1998 at 10 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Ninth Floor).

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Correction and Approval of Minutes.

Advisory Opinion 1997-24: The Corporation for the Advancement of Psychiatry and CAP Political Action Committee, by the CAPPAC treasurer, Gerald H. Flamm, M.D. Administrative Matters.

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

Mr. Ron Harris, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 219-4155.

Marjorie W. Emmons,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-5827 Filed 3-3-98; 12:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-M

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The National Board Fiscal Year 1998 Plan for Carrying Out the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice sets out the plan by which the Emergency Food and Shelter Program National Board (National Board) is conducting a program during FY 1998 to distribute \$100,000,000 to private voluntary organizations and local governments for delivering emergency food and shelter to needy individuals. The distribution formula for selecting organizations and localities, and the award amount for each, follow the Plan text.

DATES: The award to the National Board was made October 28, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carol Coleman, Preparedness, Training and Exercise Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, (202) 646-3107, or Kay C. Goss, Chair, EFSP National Board, (202) 646-3487.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title III of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq., authorizes use of funds appropriated by the Congress to supplement and expand ongoing efforts to provide shelter, food, and supportive services to homeless, needy individuals.

As in past phases, grant awards from this program are provided to address emergency needs. This program is not intended to address or correct structural poverty or long-standing problems. Rather, this appropriation is intended for the purchase of food and shelter to supplement and expand current

available resources and not to substitute or reimburse ongoing programs and services.

This funding should be used to target special emergency needs. And when we discuss emergency needs we are referring to economic, not disaster-related, emergencies. The funding should supplement feeding and sheltering efforts in ways that make a difference. What that means is: EFSP is not intended to make up for budget shortfalls or to be considered just a line in an annual budget; it is not intended that the funds must go to the same agencies for the exact same purposes every year; and, the funding is open to all organizations helping hungry and homeless people and it is not intended that the funds should go only to Local Board member agencies or local government agencies.

Having stated what it is not, what does the National Board want this program to be? As we read the law, EFSP should: create inclusive local coalitions that meet regularly to determine the best use of funds and to monitor their use in their respective communities; treat every program year as a fresh opportunity to reassess what particular community needs (e.g., on-site feeding or utility assistance, mass shelter or homelessness prevention, etc.) should be addressed; encourage agencies to work together to emphasize their respective strengths, work out common problems, and prevent duplication of effort; and, examine whether the program is helping to meet the needs of special populations such as minorities, Native Americans, veterans, families with children, the elderly, and the handicapped.

It is our intention to re-emphasize that this program has a commitment to emergency services. We continue to view it as an opportunity for building a cohesive emergency structure which can, for example, coordinate the assistance provided, across agencies, to families and individuals applying for rental, mortgage, or utility assistance; enhance a food banking network that is economical in its cost and broad in its coverage; reinforce creative cooperation among feeding and sheltering sites to ensure help for street populations most in need; and, establish or maintain a system that complements rather than supplants existing private and governmental efforts to provide rent, mortgage, or utility assistance.

The National Board is aware that much is asked of our voluntary Local Boards and LROs, and very little administrative funding is provided. But the cooperative model that EFSP has helped to create can be a useful vehicle